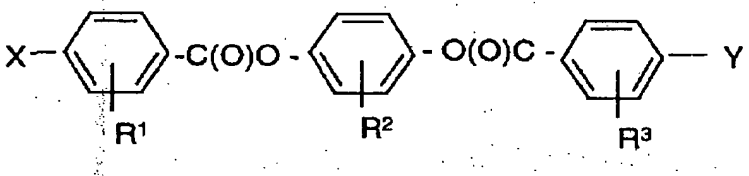
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-185 (Canceled).

186. (Currently amended) Mesogens having the following formula:



wherein

X and Y independently are selected from the group consisting of amino groups, polymerizable groups, and combinations thereof, provided that when X is polymerizable group, Y is amino group;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of t-butyl groups, isopropyl groups, and secondary butyl groups; and

R^1 and R^3 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and a methyl group~~groups less bulky than R^3~~.

187. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 186 wherein said polymerizable groups have polymerizable unsaturated carbon-carbon bond.

188. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 186 wherein said polymerizable groups are selected from the group consisting of acryloyloxy alkoxy groups and methacryloyloxy alkoxy groups having alkyl moiety with from 2 to 12 carbon atoms.

189. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 188 wherein said alkyl moiety consists essentially of from 2 to 12 carbon atoms and CH_2 groups optionally are

substituted by groups selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and ester groups; provided that two or more carbon atoms separate said oxygen from said ester groups.

190. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 189 wherein said alkyl moiety consists essentially of a total of from 2 to 9 carbon atoms.

191. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 189 wherein said alkyl moiety consists essentially of a total of from 2 to 6 carbon atoms.

192.-193. (Canceled)

194. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 186 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y further consists essentially of a spacer group.

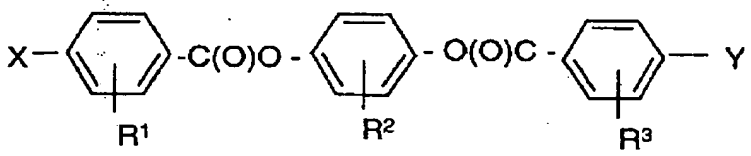
195. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 187 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y further consists essentially of a spacer group.

196. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 186 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y is a cinnamoyloxy group.

197. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 194 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y is a cinnamoyloxy group.

198. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 195 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y is a cinnamoyloxy group.

199. (Currently amended) Mesogens having the following formula:



wherein

X is a polymerizable group selected from the group consisting of acryloyloxy alkoxy groups and methacryloyloxy alkoxy groups having alkyl moiety with from 2 to 12 carbon atoms~~comprising polymerizable unsaturated carbon-carbon bond~~;

Y comprises an amino group;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups having from about 1 to 6 carbon atoms and aryl groups; and

R^1 and R^3 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and a methyl group~~groups less bulky than R^2~~.

200. (Canceled).

201. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 200 wherein said alkyl moiety consists essentially of from 2 to 12 carbon atoms and CH_2 groups optionally are substituted by groups selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur, and ester groups; provided that two or more carbon atoms separate said oxygen from said ester groups.

202. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 201 wherein said alkyl moiety consists essentially of a total of from 2 to 9 carbon atoms.

203. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 201 wherein said alkyl moiety consists essentially of a total of from 2 to 6 carbon atoms.

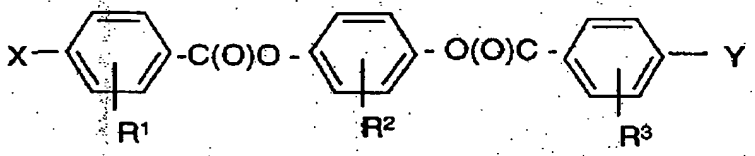
204.-205. (Canceled).

206. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 199 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y further consists essentially of a spacer group.

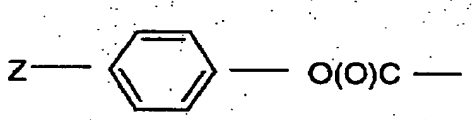
207. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 201 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y further consists essentially of a spacer group.

208. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 204 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y ~~comprises~~consists essentially of a cinnamoyloxy group.

209. (Currently amended) Mesogens having the following formula:



wherein X and Y independently are selected from the group consisting of spacer groups, polymerizable groups, and combinations thereof, one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y having the following structure:



wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of spacer groups, terminal functionalities, polymerizable groups, and combinations thereof, said spacer groups being selected from the group consisting of H-$(CH_2)_n$-O- groups, Cl$(CH_2)_n$-O- groups, Br$(CH_2)_n$-O- groups, I$(CH_2)_n$-O-, wherein n is from about 2 to about 12 wherein the CH_2 groups independently can be substituted by oxygen,

sulfur, or an ester group; provided that at least 2 carbon atoms separate said oxygen or said ester group;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups having from about 1 to 6 carbon atoms and aryl groups; and

R^1 and R^3 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and a methyl group~~groups less bulky than R^3~~.

210. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 209 wherein X and Y further consist essentially of functionalities independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl groups, amino groups, and sulfhydryl groups.

211. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 210 wherein n is from about 2 to 9.

212. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 210 wherein n is from 2 to 6.

213. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 209 wherein said polymerizable groups have alkyl moiety having polymerizable unsaturated carbon-carbon bond.

214. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 210 wherein said polymerizable groups have alkyl moiety having polymerizable unsaturated carbon-carbon bond.

215. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 214 wherein said alkyl moiety has from 2 to 9 carbon atoms.

216. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 214 wherein said alkyl moiety has from ~~from~~ 2 to 6 carbon atoms.

217. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 209 wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl groups, t-butyl groups, isopropyl groups, secondary butyl groups, and phenyl groups.

218. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 210 wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl groups, t-butyl groups, isopropyl groups, secondary butyl groups, and phenyl groups.

219. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 213 wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl groups, t-butyl groups, isopropyl groups, secondary butyl groups, and phenyl groups.

220. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 214 wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl groups, t-butyl groups, isopropyl groups, secondary butyl groups, and phenyl groups.

221. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 216 wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl groups, t-butyl groups, isopropyl groups, secondary butyl groups, and phenyl groups.

222.-223. (Canceled)

224. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 220 wherein R and R^3 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and methyl group.

225. (Previously presented) The mesogens of claim 221 wherein R and R^3 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and methyl group.

226. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 209 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y is cinnamoyloxy group.

227. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 217 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y is cinnamoyloxy group.

228. (Currently amended) The mesogens of claim 222 wherein one or more ~~member~~members selected from the group consisting of X and Y is cinnamoyloxy group.